

COURTNEY M. PRICE  
VICE PRESIDENT  
CHEMSTAR



June 25, 2001

**BY HAND DELIVERY**

Honorable Christine T. Whitman  
Administrator, U.S., Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: OPPTS-00274D: Voluntary Children's Chemical Evaluation Program

Dear Administrator Whitman:

The American Chemistry Council Brominated Flame Retardant Industry Panel (BFRIP or Panel)<sup>1</sup> is submitting this letter to indicate its commitment to sponsor decabromodiphenylether in Tier 1 of EPA's Voluntary Children's Chemical Evaluation Program (VCCEP or Program) pilot (65 Fed. Reg. 8 1700, Dec. 26, 2000). The following table provides the information regarding the sponsored chemical.

**Sponsored Chemical for VCCEP Pilot – Tier 1**

Chemical	CASRN	Start Date	Submission Date
Decabromodiphenylether	1163-19-5	No later than 12-15-01	6-25-03 to 10-25-03

\* The start date is intended to allow Panel members to attend EPA-sponsored workshops on exposure requirements before undertaking significant efforts in that area. We understand that EPA currently contemplates three such workshops extending into the fall of this year. A range is stated in the submission date because of uncertainties concerning the requirements of the program, particularly as they pertain to exposure information.

We understand that sponsoring decabromodiphenylether in Tier 1 of the VCCEP pilot means that the Panel and its member companies have made a voluntary commitment to develop hazard and exposure data on decabromodiphenylether, including preparation of a hazard assessment, exposure assessment, risk assessment, and data needs assessment, consistent with the requirements of Tier 1 of the pilot program. If, for any reason, this voluntary initiative will not be undertaken by BFRIP, then any express or implied commitments to the Program will devolve to the identified manufacturers and importers

<sup>1</sup> Sponsoring companies include: **Albemarle** Corporation, Ameribrom, Inc. (a subsidiary of the Dead Sea Bromine Group) and Great Lakes Chemical Corporation.



Responsible **Care**

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of the chemical. As recognized in EPA's announcement of the pilot program, commitments are not enforceable agreements or contracts.

The technical contact for this activity is:

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Please contact Ms. Sherman if you have any questions regarding this commitment.

Sincerely yours,

Courtney M. Price  
Vice-President, CHEMSTAR

cc: Steve Johnson, Assistant Administrator  
Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances

Charles Auer, Director  
Chemical Control Division  
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics

BFRIP Members